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State Treasurer Timothy P. Cahill's
Financial Education Division



Saving Makes Cents

A PROJECT OF STATE TREASURER TIMOTHY P. CAHILL

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Three keys to financial success that can be applied to all ages:

- Always spend less than you earn
- Avoid splurging
- Invest the rest



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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of State Treasurer, Timothy P. Cahill

A Message from Treasurer Cahill

April is National Financial Education Month- a great time to make an extra effort to save more money and learn more about finances. Parents, there is no better time to talk to your children about what is going on in today's economy. Informing your children about the basics of finance can help to reassure them and answer questions that they may have about things they are hearing about the economy.

Children, as the school year winds down, I encourage you to keep your their saving habits by visiting the bank regularly to make deposits. Regular deposits accumulate quickly! Encourage your friends and family to save as well and you will all enjoy the benefits of saving. You can help your parents save money too simply by turning off the lights when you leave the room and by trying not to have the air conditioning up too high.

Saving money can be a family effort and it is something that everyone can do. Have a great summer and remember that saving makes "cents"!

Timothy P. Cahill
Treasurer and Receiver General



New SMC Addition

A new addition to the Saving Makes "Cents" guest presentation is Mr. James Roy, the Tangible Property Manager for the Abandoned Property Division of the Treasury. James shows the students a variety of historical currencies, including silver bars, gold coins and different types of paper currency. He is also on hand to answer any questions the students may have about the history of money.

In addition, James passes around a \$5 note and a silver bar to the students that are in the audience so that they can see first hand how much currency has changed through the years. Welcome, James!

Money Smart Kids!

Think you know all about money? Well, you've got some competition. Mario Gage, a 12-year-old student at Ariel Community Academy in Chicago, Illinois, was named this year's money smart kid by the FDIC. Here is his essay:

Making It Worth Your Dollar By Mario Gage

Are you one of those people who never seem to have money? If so, I am going to share three simple tips to help you keep and grow your money.

The first tip is: you get money if you give money. The second tip is: you don't have to be rich to invest your money. My final tip is: in order to keep money, you must spend your money wisely. You get money if you give money. Remember that it is better to give than to receive.

Whenever I get money, I have been taught that the first that I should do is set aside 10 percent for church. For example, if I get a dollar, ten cents of the dollar will go in the church "jar". By doing this I am giving to others. You don't have to be rich to invest your money. Your first investment should be yourself. The second thing that I do whenever I get money is take 30 percent and put it in the savings "jar". By doing this I am paying myself. The money that I put in the savings jar will eventually go into a savings account for future stock investments. For example, if I get a dollar, thirty cents will go in the savings "jar".

Look out John Rogers! Finally, in order to keep money, you must spend it wisely. The first things that you buy should be what you need (then what you want), shop for sales and never spend all of your money. For example, after giving 10 percent to church and saving 30 percent, I have 60 percent of my money to spend or go in the store "jar". So, if I had a dollar, I would be able to spend sixty cents. This is the money that I use to buy what I need or want. If you follow these tips, you will always have money.

(C) 2004 Mario Gage. Copyright © 2004, WGN-TV



Congratulations to the 2008 Limerick Contest Finalists!

Congratulations to this year's 12 Limerick Contest Finalists! For the second year in a row, there were more than 1,500 entries for the annual SMC contest. This year's number of entries topped out at over 1,850 entries, a record high number.

Grade 3:

Gillian Glasier, A.M. Chafee School, Oxford
Faith Lawless, Swift River School, Belchertown
Erica Johansson, Paxton Center School, Paxton

Grade 4:

Jorge Chiquillo, Waybright Elementary, Saugus
Genderson Lai, Snug Harbor School, Quincy
Michaela Henry, West Elementary School, Stoughton

Grade 5:

Ryan Judd, Valley Christian School, Hadley
Andrew Mortarelli, Brimfield School, Brimfield
Alexander King, Wire Village School, Spencer

Grade 6:

April Schaefer, Bourne Middle School, Bourne
Alexis Foley, Anne T Dunphy School, Williamsburg
Emily Cheney, Bourne Middle School, Bourne

**Again, thank you to our contest supporters:
Webster Five, Stoneham Bank, Country Bank,
and Sovereign Bank**



April is National Financial Literacy Month!



By now you've heard that April is National Financial Literacy Month. But what is financial literacy?

Earning, saving, spending, investing, budgeting, collecting, and giving are all part of handling money. And handling money wisely is what financial literacy is all about.

During Financial Literacy Month, we spend some time thinking about what we do with our money all year and how we can reach our financial goals.

If you get into good financial habits while you're young, you can carry those habits into your adulthood.

But whether you're young or old or somewhere in between, it's always a good time to learn how to manage money.



Financial Literacy Month Events:

April 4: Massachusetts School Bank Association held its annual conference, "Saving: My Investment for the Future," at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. About 350 students from MA high schools took part in this event.

April 24: Saving Makes "Cents" Limerick Contest Awards Ceremony, State House, 1p.m.

April 24 & 29: Boston FED Youth Event, A free personal finance event for Youth, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, 8:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m. For more information visit:

<http://www.bos.frb.org/education>

April 29: Credit for Life Financial Reality Fair, sponsored by Brockton Housing Partnership and HarborOne Credit Union.

April 29: Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation's High School Financial Literacy Program kicks off its training seminars today at Framingham State College. For more information visit: www.mass.gov/consumer/hifi



Great Financial Education Resources:

www.feedthepig.org

www.nefe.org

www.usmint.gov/kids/campCoin/financialLiteracy.cfm

www.mymoney.gov/

www.usmint.gov/kids/teachers/financialLiteracy.cfm

www.practicalmoneyskills.com/english/at_home/

www.jumpstartcoalition.org/links.cfm

www.choosetosave.org/asec/

www.orangekids.com/usefulresources.htm

www.publicdebt.treas.gov/sav/savkids.htm

<http://pbskids.org/cyberchase/>

www.choosetosave.org/resources/

www.ncee.net/

www.kidsbank.com/

(answers on bottom of page 2)

Coin Quiz

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1. Which of the following phrases does not appear on all U.S. coins?
a.) e pluribus unum b.) legal tender c.) in God we trust
2. Which of these coins does not have an inscription saying how many cents it is worth?
a.) penny b.) nickel c.) dime
3. Which of the following has never been issued as a U.S. coin?
a.) half-cent piece b.) four-cent piece c.) twenty-cent piece
4. What is the main metal used in making pennies?
a.) copper b.) zinc c.) bronze
- 5.) About how long do coins last when they are in regular use?
a.) 25 years b.) 50 years c.) 75 years
- 6.) What is the correct term for a penny?
a.) penny b.) cent c.) one-cent piece
- 7.) What coin is worth "two bits"?
a.) dime b.) quarter c.) half dollar
- 8.) Who is on the half-dollar coin?
a.) Franklin D. Roosevelt b.) Dwight D. Eisenhower c.) John F. Kennedy
- 9.) What do you call a coin collector?
a.) philatelist b.) vecturist c.) numismatist
- 10.) In relation to the "heads" side of a coin, the "tails" side is:
a.) right side up b.) upside down c.) turned halfway

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